

**MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SCHOOL DISTRICT 41 - BURNABY**

A Public Session meeting of the Board of Education of School District 41 - Burnaby was held in the Board Room at 7:14 pm on Tuesday, June 11, 2013.

Present

Trustees Baljinder Narang (Chair), Meiling Chia, Larry Hayes, Harman Pandher, James Wang and Gary Wong; Superintendent of Schools Kevin Kaardal, Deputy Superintendent Gina Niccoli-Moen, Secretary-Treasurer Greg Frank, Assistant Superintendents, Heather Hart and Roberto Bombelli, and Executive Assistant Diana Sturhahn.

Agenda

It was moved by Larry Hayes and seconded by Harman Pandher:

THAT the agenda be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Good News

Larry Hayes presented Good News items from various Burnaby schools, as attached.

Minutes

It was moved by Meiling Chia and seconded by Harman Pandher:

THAT the minutes of the Public Session of May 28, 2013 be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Board Chair Report

Chair Baljinder Narang stated that one of the most inspiring celebrations each year is the Eagle Feather Ceremony “Honouring Our Youth”. The District’s Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement came into effect 5 years ago to achieve the goal of student success. Aboriginal student achievement in Burnaby is improving at one of the highest rates in the province.

Chair Narang welcomed the newly appointed Minister of Education, Peter Fassbender. She acknowledged outgoing chair of the District Parent Advisory Committee (DPAC) Jennifer Mezei for her dedication and commitment to Burnaby Schools for the past 3 years, and welcomed incoming DPAC Chair Katherine Robertson.

It was moved by Harman Pandher and seconded by Larry Hayes:

THAT the Board receive and approve the Board Chair Report, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Superintendent’s Report

Partners in Education Plus Pilot Program

Director of Instruction, Peter Dubinsky provided an overview of the *Partners in Education Plus* program, which provides onsite early learning programming for adult students with pre-school age children.

Executive Director, Jean Rasmussen from The Canucks Family Education Centre (CFEC) highlighted the successes of the program, which has provided school and family services for 10 years. CFEC acts as a conduit to support adult learners gain stronger English skills to improve employment opportunities. Program Manager for CFEC, Lina Arias shared the successes to date, for the 281 participants, including school age children. Adult student Cathy Ismail shared her experience of coming to Canada – a dream come true for her, to have the freedom to create the opportunity of a full life for herself and her family.

Inquiry and Innovation in Teaching and Learning in the Early Years

Director of Instruction Wanda Mitchell provided an overview of the *Reggio Emilia* approach. Early Learning Helping Teacher, Angela Meredith explained how the program helps teachers provide learning experiences for students. Driven by curiosity and an interest in learning, each child has unlimited potential. This

learning experience explores the natural world around them, and the environment becomes the “third teacher”.

Teachers Caroline Thomas, Kristen Brolin, Giovana Thiessen and Priscilla Yap provided examples of how this learning approach impacts students and families.

2013-2014 Student Fees

In accordance with the School Act, Superintendent Kevin Kaardal presented the 2013 – 2014 Student Fees report. He reported that the fee schedule meets the requirements of the legislation.

It was moved by Gary Wong and seconded by James Wang:

THAT the Superintendent’s Report be received and approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Correspondence

It was moved by Larry Hayes and seconded by James Wang:

THAT the letter from Debra Pool, President of Canadian Parents for French (CPF) forwarding a copy of the CPF’s report, be received.

Carried unanimously.

Committee Reports

Education Committee

It was moved by Harman Pandher and seconded by Larry Hayes:

THAT the Education Committee Report be received and the recommendation contained therein be approved, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Youth and Community Services Committee

It was moved by Larry Hayes and seconded by Harman Pandher:

THAT the Youth and Community Services Committee Report be received, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

District Operations – Administrative Services

It was moved by Gary Wong and seconded by Larry Hayes:

THAT the Board receive and approve the Superintendent's District Operations – Administrative Services Report, as presented.

Carried unanimously.

Adjournment

It was moved by Larry Hayes and seconded by Gary Wong:

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 8:20 pm.

Carried unanimously.

Original signed

Baljinder Narang
Chair

D. Greg Frank, C.A.
Secretary-Treasurer